

"THE PRODIGAL SON" HEARTILY RECEIVED

New Hall Caine Play
Launched at National.

AUDIENCE IS BRILLIANT

Drama Strong and Mounting Sumptuous, But Plot Lacks Unity and Compactness.

A dramatic composition of great interest, "The Prodigal Son," by Hall Caine, was given its first performance at the National Theater last night. The actors assembled by Lieber & Co. for this production, the drama itself, rather than a wide interest in the playwright's novel of the same name, and handsome new decorations for the playhouse all contributed to make the event noteworthy. In its attitude of pleasant anticipation, the same audience might have given a complacent indorsement to almost any acceptable play, and it is pleasant to note, therefore, that yesterday evening it greeted this new work with general enthusiasm and followed its development with unusual intensity.

A new setting of subdued greens and a new drop curtain emphasized the brilliancy of the audience, for in spite of the season the play drew to the New National an assembly that was both noteworthy and picturesque. In the boxes and nearby were Admiral Dewey and a party, Assistant Secretary of State Frank B. Loomis and a party, Mrs. James D. McCallum and a party, Judge Hannis Taylor and a party, William B. Hibbs and party. Nearly every large newspaper in the United States was represented by its Washington correspondent. There were, of course, the invariable first-nighters. And a fine touch of color was contributed by the uniforms of a score or more of "mid-dies" from the Naval Academy at Annapolis. The author, who had intended to be present, was dissuaded at the last moment from crossing the Atlantic by the company which is to produce the play in London next Saturday night, a company which is headed by George Alexander, and includes the daughter of the playwright.

Many Diversified Elements.

The play is susceptible of several classifications. For two acts it moves on the plan of a fine modern tragedy. For two acts more it suggests an interweaving of "Sappho" and "Rip Van Winkle." It is as splendidly mounted as a Drury Lane spectacle, and acted, on the whole, with the methods of the best modern comedies. In substance, it is that of Jacob and Esau.

Yet the production bids fair to be as great a success, and worthily so, as the same author's "The Christian." The intensity of its story, the growth of its thrilling climaxes, chiefly through very familiar course, and the skill with which it is acted fuse all these elements—the rivalry of sisters, the combat of rugged strength against artistic refinement, the tale of a noble and noble speech and the loose tongue of the strumpet—into a coherent, though hardly compact, art product.

From Iceland to Monte Carlo.

Two brothers and two sisters, children of old friends, are reared together in Iceland. The one of the two men sacrifices his love for the one of the two women because he discovers on the day of their betrothal that her heart has been touched by love for his brother. The lovers are married, journey through England, take with them the sister of the bride and return to Iceland estranged in affection, though not in marriage, by the husband's attention to his sister-in-law.

A forged note, executed that the last named might gamble, comes to light. The disclosure kills the young man and leaves in her stead a baby daughter. The husband is killed by his father, and his favored companion, the Becknet Monte Carlo. There he ruins himself, pretends suicide, flees both woman and gambling, earns rank and fortune as a composer, returns to Iceland to find his old home under the auctioneer's hammer, and at the end slips away from it in the night, leaving behind him, to clear away the wreckage of his course, money to save the Iceland home and care for the daughter who does not even know his face.

Too Many Good Situations.

How bountifully such a story yields situations is manifest. There are, indeed, too many for art's sake. Every turn of the actor's head portends a thrill. The mind is bewildered, after the second act, beyond the appreciation of any simple story, and this effect is intensified by a wealth of costumes and a general disturbance of the histrionic air which deflect the mind from the characters to a sort of panoramic view of a great gambling hall. Much of this will, of course, be obliterated. The last third, and the succeeding especially, of this week will enable the company to get the needed dramatic effects without stirring up the minds of the auditors with a stick.

A Fine Company.

The acting was admirable. Marie Thompson, J. E. Dodson, W. H. Thompson, Ida Waterman, and half a dozen others present cameo-like character impersonations. They afforded marked pleasure every moment they are in the picture. They seem to be, indeed, a dramatic extravaganza. They might do so much and they have so little to do. Edward Morgan, Charlotte Becknet, Drina De Wolfe, and Aubrey Bouc, caught the principal roles, in a progressive ratio, they were better than last night. Yet Mr. Morgan easily equaled his best earlier enactment in this city. Miss Walker disclosed an ability which must have surprised even her friends; Miss De Wolfe filled the requirements of a large part with advantage to the play. The play created altogether the illusion of the character limited by the playwright in the music-hall. Charlotte Becknet, a younger brother, all four were warmly greeted, especially Miss Walker, and the particular triumph of this young woman gave manifest satisfaction to the whole audience.

Last night's auditors extended to "The Prodigal Son" their hearty indorsement. With each succeeding performance, the play will grow more and more to deserve that indorsement. It has, indeed, all the requirements of popular success—tense interest, "strong" emotions, admirable acting, and a sumptuous investiture. But as dramatic literature, two things are yet required—a pair of sharp scissors and a strong hand to wield them.

WHY WILLIE GROANS IN HIS SLEEP



His Stomach Not the Cause of His Nightmares These Late Summer Days.

LAFAYETTE.

"Lovers and Lunatics" Pronounced an Amusing Show by Large Audience.

"Lovers and Lunatics," a musical farce comedy in two acts, was presented last night at the Lafayette Theater with pleasing effect upon an audience which comfortably filled that popular playhouse. It includes all the essentials—pretty girls, catchy music, excellent comedy and plenty of the spectacular—which go to make a good show and was given with snap and vivacity. There is, of course, no plot to speak of, only just enough around which to gather innumerable comical situations and to permit the introduction of specialties to allow the performers to show their versatility. As the title suggests there are lunatics and lovers and these are intermingled in such a way that the audience is kept busy separating the one from the other. Johnny Ford and Mayme Gehrue are excellent entertainers, the latter scoring decidedly in her song "Caroline" with dancing accompaniment, and again with Mr. Ford in the duet "Would You Do It." The comedy part was instigated by Joe Morris, who got on good terms with the audience in the first act with his songs, "The Pandy Man," and several other popular songs which he parodied. George P. Watson and Florence Little also proved interesting entertainers and comedians of no mean ability, as did Mr. Watson in his yodling song and Miss Little "You're the Rainbow of My Heart." Sam Shannon as "Pinkie" and J. Maurice Holden and Henrietta Tedro contributed greatly to the fun-making.

CHASE'S.

Agout Family and Stuart Lead in Excellent Vaudeville Bill.

Vaudeville at Chase's this week is of an unusually high order, the top-liners of the bill being Stuart, the "male Patti," and the Agout family. Stuart, whose voice is manly enough when he so desires, sings in a beautiful soprano voice while he disports himself on the stage in gorgeous Parisian gowns, with all the mannerisms and coquetry of a real woman. The Agout family, consisting of two women and three men, all jugglers, works in pantomime and juggles furniture, crockery, and parasols with exciting effect. Leaping gave a highly interesting exhibition of card and coin tricks by sleight-of-hand, proving his excellence in this line. He used motion pictures to illustrate his dexterity in manipulating coins. Lulu Bennett Mitchell gave a fine performance of "whirlwind dancing," receiving several encores. Snyder and Buckley, rosters of laughter by their satirical musical turn, Snyder never failing to bring a laugh by his comical expression and funny remarks. The five Bellatzer sisters do good acrobatic feats on the rings and the trapeze. Al Lawrence, the well-known monologist, has some new jokes and gets off his Irish brogue with great effect. The vaudeville bill of the story of "What Happened to Jones."

ACADEMY.

"Why Girls Leave Home" Played Before "Standing Room Only" Audience.

"Why Girls Leave Home" repeated its last year's local success at the Academy last night, before an audience which packed that popular playhouse to the doors. The play, which is not of the customary sensational nature, deals with a wayward young girl who is easily led astray by the smooth and beguiling manners of Joe White, a chance acquaintance. Clara Joli, as Pearl Sherwood, the wayward girl, is ably assisted by White and lured to the house of the villain's confederate. After a heroic struggle she finally escapes and returns to rescue her brother, who in the meantime has been sent to prison on false charges. The company, which is unusually good, gave a first-class performance. J. Irving White, in the part of the wayward girl's brother, and Florence McJone, as her younger sister, earned much applause. Sam Stone and W. R. Healey furnished the comedy of the play.

LYCEUM.

"The High School Girls" Please in Burlesque.

T. W. Dinkin's company of burlesquers, "The High School Girls," entertained this week at the Lyceum with

NEWS OF GEORGETOWN

GIFT TO JAPANESE.

George W. King, of 1235 Thirty-second street, is the possessor of a bronze medal, finely executed, bearing in relief the head of President James Buchanan, which was issued in the year of 1892 to commemorate the visit to the United States of the first Japanese embassy. The medal was presented to Mr. King some years ago by one of the high officials of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

It is Mr. King's intention to present it to Baron Komura, as the presence in the United States at this time of the distinguished peace envoy suggests the appropriateness of such an act. He has written to the Japanese embassy, at Washington, in order to learn the procedure. The presentation will be made through the embassy.

DAMAGES BY FIRE.

The fire which occurred some time ago at the large frame dwelling, 2532 Thirty-second street, owned and occupied by Mrs. Homiller, caused damage to the amount of \$50, this amount having been paid over a few days ago to Mrs. Homiller.

ISAAC SHOEMAKER ILL.

Isaac E. Shoemaker, of the Miller-Shoemaker Real Estate Company, of 1232-1235 Thirty-second street, is confined to his home, 2535 Wisconsin avenue, by illness.

CLUB'S REOPENING.

The Washington Boys' Club, whose headquarters is at 2320 N street, will reopen on Saturday evening, September 2.

a mixture of everything in the burlesque and variety line. The opening skit, "The High School Girls of Tarrytown," proves uproariously funny. A well-gowned chorus is introduced. "Fun in a Barber Shop" is the concluding burlesque. Terry and Elmer, old favorites here, appear in a one-act play in which the former does some clever dancing. Gregory Brothers show well in a hoop act. Several other interesting numbers make up the bill. Crowded houses greeted both performances yesterday.

BIG PRINTERY MAKES CALL FOR MORE MEN

Requisition Made on Civil Service Commission for Twenty Additional Composers.

The Government Printing Office has made a second requisition on the Civil Service Commission for temporary composers to aid in the rush of work. The new order is for twenty men, as was the one made a few days ago. The commission is said to be making the selections from the old register, as the new one has not been completed. Many of the names selected are said to be those of out-of-town printers, and it will be several days before they can be put to work.

The local Typographical Union will probably petition the commission to return to the former practice of first selecting local printers for the temporary work, as it is said a great deal of dissatisfaction exists over the present plan of taking the names from all over the country for this class of work. Edwin C. Jones, chief clerk of the Philippine Public Printing Office, arrived in Washington this week from Manila. He was at the Government Printing Office today renewing acquaintances, having been foreman of a division there before going to the Philippines.

Chief Jones is said to entertain flattering ideas as to the future of the islands, and says the natives who have been put to work in the printing office make good printers. Two-thirds of the employees of the office are natives, who receive instructions from the Americans sent there for that purpose. Mr. Jones will spend several weeks in this country before returning to his post.

MACFARLAND TAKES DESPONDENT VIEW

Does Not Think Bigger Pay Possible.

CONGRESS IS ECONOMICAL

Points Out That Circumstances Militate Against Employees Getting Higher Salaries Now.

Commissioner Macfarland, in answer to a question, said today that while justice to faithful and efficient public servants requires increases of salaries as well as increases of force, circumstances will probably prevent many such increases being made.

Mr. Macfarland said that he did not think the desired increases in the salaries of teachers, firemen, and policemen would be made in the appropriation bill.

However, the Commissioner said that he had arranged with the chairman of the District Committee to have ready when Congress meets bills proposing schedules of salaries for teachers, firemen, and policemen which would be considered favorably, he believed, and, if adopted by Congress, would put on the statute books permanent schedules, giving increased pay which the Appropriations Committee would follow in future. It will be seen, therefore, that Mr. Macfarland does not entertain high hopes of getting anything for the teachers, policemen, and firemen at the coming session of Congress. While the committees of the District of Columbia in both houses may favorably report bills fixing schedules for the payment of these public servants, it does not necessarily follow that they will pass Congress in the immediate future. It is generally known that the appropriations committees will take them up to call for an expenditure of money, and will really be more economical than they were last year.

One of the important problems before Congress this year will be a reduction in the expenditures to wipe out the deficit in the Treasury. It is known that the Republican leaders will be unusually careful this session upon all appropriation bills. The estimates of the different departments of the District government will not be all before the Commissioners until about the 1st of October, when the commissioners will take them up together with the recommendations from citizens' associations and individuals, and prepare the estimates for the District budget for the next fiscal year.

ARTIST SAVES CABMAN FROM ROBBERS' CLUTCH

Night Adventure in Paris Savoring of the Wild and Woolly West.

PARIS, Aug. 28.—An adventure, which savoring of the Wild West, happened last night to Savaler Schreider, a cabman, who was asleep on his box at the time, leaving his horse to crawl at will along the Boulevard Murat by the fortifications, when he awoke to find a masked man holding the horse's head. The next second another man jumped on the box beside him, and pressing a revolver to the trembling cabman's temple, uttered the French equivalent for "Your money or your life!" The night was dark and the street deserted. Dazed with fear, Schreider began to count out his money.

Just then a revolver shot rang out, and a third man appeared on the scene, threw himself on the highwayman who was holding the horse's head, while, seeing this turn of affairs, the cabman seized hold of the man beside him. The two bandits were eventually overpowered, bound and placed in the cab, and thus hauled off to Auteuil. There it transpired that the rescuer was a well-known artist, who had seen the attack from his window on the Boulevard Murat, and rushed down to the rescue.

FOOT BADLY CRUSHED BY A HEAVY IRON BAR

His foot caught under a heavy iron bar which fell a distance of twenty-five feet or more, Pascal Jacoby, thirty-eight years old, was painfully injured while working at Germantown, Md., yesterday afternoon, and his hurts were so severe that it was deemed advisable to bring him to Washington for treatment. At the Emergency Hospital, where he was taken after his arrival in the city, the physicians stated that all the bones in his right foot had been fractured and the flesh badly mangled. Jacoby said he lived at 718 South Twenty-ninth street, Philadelphia, but had been employed as a structural iron worker in Germantown for more than a month.

SKIN DISEASES SPEAK FOR THE BLOOD

Skin Diseases speak for the blood and tell of the acid-laden, poisonous condition of that vital fluid, and of its effort to throw off and rid the system of the poisons and waste matters that have accumulated in it. Eczema, Tetter, Acne, Salt Rheum, Psoriasis, Boils and diseases of this type are all caused by a weakened and polluted blood circulation, and though they may have lain dormant in the system during the cold weather, at the coming of Spring and Summer, when the blood is reacting and making extra efforts to expel all morbid and poisonous matter, they make their appearance. External remedies cannot cure; they soothe and give temporary relief, but often clog the pores and glands, and the poison causing the trouble is thus shut up in the system to break out afresh later on. S. S. S., a purely vegetable blood remedy, cures all skin diseases by going down into the circulation, driving out all poisons and waste matters, strengthening the blood, leaving the skin soft and smooth, and building up the entire system by its tonic effect. S. S. S. cures Nettle Rash, Poison Oak and all skin diseases that enter the system through the pores and glands, as well as those that have their origin in the blood. Book on Skin Diseases and any advice wished, without charge.

SSS

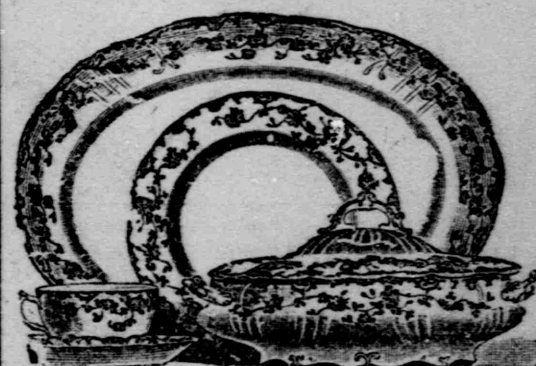
those that have their origin in the blood. Book on Skin Diseases and any advice wished, without charge.

THE SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., ATLANTA, GA.

THE PALAIS ROYAL A. LISNER Chinaaware Day

Wednesday, August 30th

This Wednesday Sale was planned months ago and worked for ever since. Chinaaware is to be offered tomorrow at the lowest prices of a lifetime. There's only one fault to any piece in this great gathering—it's 1905 chinaaware. The leading potteries of the world have contributed, and one-half the prices of the new 1906 patterns can be asked.



\$6.95

For \$10 Sets

The most popular \$10 Dinner and Tea Sets for 1905.

\$3.98

Dinner and Tea Set for family of six people. Best \$5 set of 1905 for \$3.98.



\$10.98

For \$17.50 Sets.

Carlsbad China Dinner and Tea Sets, 100 pieces; floral and gold decorations. Best \$17.50 sets of 1905.



98c

Coffee or Tea Sets, 25 decorated pieces, including metal tray. Best \$1.50 set of 1905.



10c

Carlsbad China Cups and Saucers; tea, coffee, and chocolate sizes. Best 25c china of 1905.

\$3.98

For \$6 Sets

Maddock English China

Toilet Sets, 12 pieces, including large slop jar.

Best \$6 sets of 1905.



\$2.98

For \$4 Sets

Toilet Sets of 1905, of 10 decorated pieces. Will the new \$4 sets be any more artistic.

White China

Pitcher and Basin.....48c
Slop Jar, large.....39c
Chambers, large.....14c



Oddments

Sets become "broken." One missing teacup or a saucer spoils a whole set. A huge table filled with these oddments:

10c Tea Plates.....	5c 20c Cream Pitchers.....	10c
12c Breakfast Plates.....	6c 17c Slop Bowls.....	8c
15c Dinner Plates.....	7c 29c Pickle Dishes.....	14c
12c Soup Plates.....	6c 34c Sauce Boats.....	17c
6c Fruit Saucers.....	3c 29c Covered Dishes.....	39c
4c Individual Butters.....	2c 20c Bakers.....	12c
16c Teacups and Saucers.....	8c 29c Meat Dishes.....	12c
20c Coffee Cups and Saucers.....	10c 25c Meat Dishes.....	15c
50c Sugar Bowls.....	24c 25c Meat Dishes.....	15c

The PALAIS ROYAL
A. Lisner.
G Street